

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated June 23, 2005, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, and 5 are now all the claims pending in the present application. Claims 3, 4 and 6 have been canceled.

I. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 4 has been canceled.

Claim 1 has been amended as indicated above. Applicant believes that the amendment to claim 1 is sufficient to overcome the § 112, second paragraph rejection, therefore, Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims be withdrawn.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakamichi (U.S. Patent No. 5,870,368). Claims 3 and 6 have been canceled from the application. Consequently, the rejection of claims 3 and 6 over Nakamichi is now moot.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith (U.S. Patent No. 6,141,180). As indicated above, claims 3 and 6 have been canceled from the application. Consequently, the rejection of claims 3 and 6 over Smith is now moot.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1, 2 and 5 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant believes that the amendments, as indicated above, resolves the § 112, second paragraph rejection, consequently, claims 1, 2 and 5 should now be allowed.

V. Conclusion

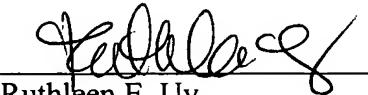
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No.: 10/656,236

Attorney Docket No.: Q77277

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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